

accident free work is a significant achievement and I wish the workers and leadership of Umicore many continued safe and productive years of prosperity.

HONORING KRISTI SAITAMA

HON. GEORGE RADANOVICH

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, November 16, 2010

Mr. RADANOVICH. Madam Speaker, I rise today to acknowledge and honor Kristi Saitama for her ten years of service on the Almond Board of California and congratulate her on her new position at the U.S. Dairy Export Council. Kristi has assisted the Almond Board of California in exporting California almonds and building relationships through trade with Japanese, Korean and Indian markets.

Kristi has accepted a new position as vice president, Export Ingredient Marketing at the U.S. Dairy Export Council. I am confident that Kristi has left a team of colleagues well prepared to carry the future of the California almonds exportation endeavors, and will seamlessly transition into her new position. Madam Speaker, please join me in commending and congratulating Kristi Saitama on her new position and on her job well done.

HONORING THE 50TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE CHEROKEE COUNTY RESCUE SQUAD

HON. HEATH SHULER

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, November 16, 2010

Mr. SHULER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the Cherokee County Rescue Squad and recognize its 50 years of life-saving service. Rescue squads harness the spirit of volunteerism to provide a unique sense of security and safety to their communities.

Rescue Squads around the country tend to all types of accidents and respond with the utmost effectiveness and efficiency. Usually, these groups are made up of volunteers who endure hours of extensive training. Their membership includes many who are certified paramedics, emergency medical technicians, first responders and heavy rescue personnel.

The volunteers that make up the Cherokee County Rescue Squad provide top-notch, life-saving services. The Cherokee County Rescue Squad has worked tirelessly not only to serve and protect the citizens of Cherokee County but to also ensure that their equipment and vehicles are up to date. They now boast their resources as some of the best the state of North Carolina has to offer.

I am proud to support these men and women who put their lives on the line to come to the aid of their neighbors. This type of assistance is rare in today's world, yet these people administer help in any way they can for the better good of the people of Cherokee County.

Madam Speaker, I urge my colleagues today to join me in recognizing the Cherokee County Rescue Squad's 50th anniversary and their unfailing service to the citizens in Cherokee County.

TRIBUTE TO BESSIE REDMOND

HON. WILLIAM L. OWENS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, November 16, 2010

Mr. OWENS. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Bessie Redmond of Plattsburgh, NY, on her 99th Birthday.

Bessie and her family moved when she was 3 years old to Brooklyn, where her parents ran a candy store near the Brooklyn Bridge. Throughout her full life, she has shown an unrelenting passion for education. At the age of 6, she received her first library card and regularly visited her local library every week, looking for more material to learn. This steadfast dedication to learning was engrained in her from her first day of school, where absences from class were never excused by her parents.

Bessie attended high school in Saranac Lake, went to college at St. Lawrence University, and took her love for reading to the Columbia Library School in New York City. She currently resides in the same community as my father at the Lake Forest Senior Living Community in Plattsburgh. Over the years, I have had the pleasure of having several conversations with her and look forward to seeing her each time I visit.

To this day, Bessie continues to look for new experiences and truly represents the liveliness of her community. I congratulate her on 99 full, exciting years and thank her for playing such a vibrant role in our region.

IN HONOR AND RECOGNITION OF VIRGIL E. BROWN, SR.

HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, November 16, 2010

Mr. KUCINICH. Madam Speaker, I rise today in honor and recognition of Virgil E. Brown, Sr. for his longtime service on behalf of our community.

Virgil was born Louisville, Kentucky on August 12, 1917, and moved to Cleveland in 1929, where his father worked in construction. Virgil graduated from local public schools and attended college at night before beginning a career in insurance and politics. He married Lurtissia Spencer and they had two children. They also have seven grandchildren and two great-grandchildren.

Virgil thrived as an entrepreneur and small business owner, opening his own insurance agency in the early 1960s. In 1967, he was recruited to run for City Council by a group of local women, though he was a Republican in a Democratic ward. He won the election, and went on to a great career in Cleveland politics, serving six years on the City Council, seven years as the Director of the Cuyahoga County Board of Elections, twelve years as the Cuyahoga County Commissioner, and three years as director of the Ohio Lottery.

Madam Speaker and Colleagues, please join me in honor and recognition of Virgil E. Brown, Sr., for his dedication to Cleveland and Cuyahoga County. His lifetime of service shows his devotion to the needs of the people in our community, and his hard work will be remembered for years to come.

IN RECOGNITION OF OFFICER KEVIN COLLOPY

HON. JACKIE SPEIER

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, November 16, 2010

Ms. SPEIER. Madam Speaker, I rise to honor Officer Kevin Collopy who has retired from the Burlingame Police Department after 31 years of service.

He joined the force in 1978 and became one of the youngest police inspectors in department history. He has worked in many capacities throughout his law enforcement career, including that of Patrol Officer, Evidence Technician, Inspector and Acting Watch Commander.

He has consistently performed his duties in a professional manner while sharing his wisdom and work-ethic with all those who have been fortunate to work with him.

With retirement comes the opportunity for Kevin and his wife, Jenny, to share more time together and for Kevin to use his pilot's license to full advantage as he is bound to fly over the area he was once patrolled.

Madam Speaker, it is fitting that Officer Kevin Collopy will be honored at a retirement dinner and I ask that the members join me in saluting Officer Collopy for his 31 years of dedicated service to public safety.

IN TRIBUTE TO BOB BROOKS

HON. ELTON GALLEGLY

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, November 16, 2010

Mr. GALLEGLY. Madam Speaker, I rise in tribute to Ventura County Sheriff Bob Brooks—a good friend to my wife, Janice, and me and a consummate law enforcement professional.

Sheriff Brooks is retiring after 37 years as a sworn officer for the Ventura County Sheriff's Department, including three terms as Sheriff.

Bob was elected Sheriff in 1998. Under his guidance, the Department's 1,300 employees and 2,000 volunteers provide law enforcement services to 800,000 people in the unincorporated parts of Ventura County and the cities of Thousand Oaks, Camarillo, Ojai, Fillmore and Moorpark.

Over the years, Bob and I have worked on many projects to enhance public safety in Ventura County, including initiatives to crack down on methamphetamine labs, clear cold case DNA felonies, suppress gang activity, screen inmates for illegal immigrants, and upgrade communications for deputies in the field. Bob rose through the ranks and never forgot what deputies face on the streets and what they need to do their jobs.

Sheriff Brooks earned his Bachelor's degree in Public Administration from the University of Redlands, a Master's degree in Organizational Management from Regent University and graduated from the U.S. Department of Justice's National Sheriffs' Institute, the FBI's National Executive Institute, and with distinction from the P.O.S.T. Command College. He recently received his second Master's Degree in Homeland Security from the Naval Post Graduate School.

Bob is in demand as a speaker at symposiums, conferences and community organizations, and more in demand by his community.

He serves on the Board of Directors for several professional, educational and charitable organizations, and is a member of the Federal Emergency Management Agency Preparedness Task Force. He is a past president of the Ventura County Council of Boy Scouts of America, and is a member of the Executive Boards of the California State Sheriffs' Association and the Major County Sheriffs' Association. Bob is also a trustee of Life Pacific College, and has served as an instructor at California State University, Northridge; California Lutheran University and Ventura County Community Colleges. Bob has been awarded the Law Enforcement Commendation Medal from the National Society of the Sons of the American Revolution. He is an honorary Rotarian, and serves on the Board of New Hope Christian Fellowship.

A Ventura County resident since 1961, he and Debbie have been married for 40 years. They have two grown sons, Jeff and Brian, and two grandchildren.

Madam Speaker, I know my colleagues will join Janice and me in congratulating Bob Brooks on his retirement, in wishing him and Debbie good health in the years ahead, and in thanking him for 37 years of dedicated service.

TRIBUTE TO U.S. COLONEL
GERALD P. ZIEMBA, RETIRED

HON. DAVE CAMP

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, November 16, 2010

Mr. CAMP. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor retired U.S. Colonel Gerald P. Ziembra for his long and admirable service to the United States.

Colonel Ziembra started active duty in the Army in 1959 as a Second Lieutenant. In 1972, he became Commander of the U.S. Army Reserve's 578th Research & Development Unit in Midland, Michigan. Later, in 1983, the Senate approved his elevation to the rank of Colonel. After this last promotion, the Army appointed Colonel Ziembra to Deputy Commander of Sharpe Army Depot, where he eventually became chairman of a group tasked with developing a next-generation, supply-chain facility. Under his skillful leadership, a \$200 million state-of-the-art warehouse was built, for which the U.S. Army awarded him the Meritorious Service Medal for outstanding non-combat achievement.

Colonel Ziembra continued his service in 1994 when the Department of Commerce asked him to manage a newly formed Treaty Inspections Division of the Business, Industry, and Security Agency, BIS. BIS tasked him with implementing the Chemical Weapons Convention within the chemical industry. In this position, he drafted recommendations for implementing legislation and regulations. In addition, he represented the U.S. Government at numerous international forums.

Currently, Colonel Ziembra is involved in licensing activities for dual-use chemicals and equipment with the Department of Commerce. He is also the Commerce Department's representative in a multi-agency committee for

improving chemical defense in the United States.

On behalf of the 4th Congressional District of Michigan, I am honored today to recognize Colonel Gerald P. Ziembra's service and dedication to his country. I hope the years to come will bring him health, happiness, and special times with family and friends.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. PATRICK J. KENNEDY

OF RHODE ISLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, November 16, 2010

Mr. KENNEDY. Madam Speaker, I regret that I was unable to participate in a series of votes on the floor of the House of Representatives today.

Had I been present to vote on rollcall No. 567, on the motion to suspend the rules and agree to S. 3689, I would have voted "aye" on the question.

Had I been present to vote on rollcall No. 567, on the motion to suspend the rules and agree to H. Res. 1713, I would have voted "aye" on the question.

Had I been present to vote on rollcall No. 568, on the motion to suspend the rules and agree to H. Con. Res. 328, I would have voted "aye" on the question.

IN HONOR AND RECOGNITION OF
RONALD PIECHOWSKI

HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, November 16, 2010

Mr. KUCINICH. Madam Speaker and Colleagues, I rise today in honor and recognition of Ronald Piechowski, upon the occasion of his 50th anniversary of service to the citizens of Cuyahoga County. His years of dedicated service in the Cashier's Department of the Cuyahoga County Clerk of Courts Division reflects integrity, professionalism and excellence.

Mr. Piechowski was born in Cleveland, Ohio, the oldest of three sons, to Walter and Cecilia Piechowski. His parents instilled within their boys a sense of pride in their Polish heritage, their family and their Roman Catholic faith. Following graduation from South High School in Cleveland, Mr. Piechowski began his career at the Clerk of Courts office during the summer of 1960. By October of that year, he became a full-time employee and quickly ascended in the Cuyahoga County Court. He joined the National Guard in 1963 and served with honor for four years. Back at the County Court, he started in the files department and worked his way up to dockets and then journal entries. He was soon promoted to the Cashier's Department, and in 1979, he was named Chief Cashier and Supervisor, overseeing a staff of 19. He was responsible for the collection, disbursement, and application of more than \$140 million annually. Remarkably, he balanced every ledger, every book, and every account to the penny.

Over the years, Mr. Piechowski has created friendships throughout our Greater Cleveland community. His expertise and work ethic is

balanced by his sense of humor, humble demeanor and kind heart. Though not a person to seek the limelight, Mr. Piechowski has been honored with many awards over the years, including recognition by the Cuyahoga County Bar Association for professional excellence.

Madam Speaker, please join me in honor of Ronald Piechowski, upon the occasion of his 50th anniversary of service to the citizens of Cuyahoga County. His public service reflects unwavering dedication, integrity, precision, excellence and heart. He is a vital force in protecting the public coffers and preserving the public trust. We are grateful for his wonderful and continued service.

COMMEMORATION OF TURKEY'S
FOUNDING

HON. ED WHITFIELD

OF KENTUCKY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, November 16, 2010

Mr. WHITFIELD. Madam Speaker, I rise today to congratulate the people of the Republic of Turkey in their celebration of their country's historic eighty-seventh anniversary and founding by Mustafa Kemal Atatürk on October 29.

The anniversary is cause for us to pause and reflect upon the many accomplishments of the people of Turkey, most notably Turkish Republic founder Mustafa Kemal Atatürk's vision of a secular, pluralistic democracy.

The United States and Turkey have invested a great deal of energy in cultivating a critical and robust bilateral relationship. Time and time again, Turkey has proven itself to be a strong ally in our fight against Islamic extremism, and a key supporter of our operations in Afghanistan.

As the people of Turkey enter their eighty-eighth year, Atatürk's vision continues to ring true. I know my colleagues and fellow Americans share my sentiments in wishing the people and Government of the Republic of Turkey all the prosperity and opportunity of a bright democratic future.

HONORING FRESNO EQUIPMENT
CO.

HON. GEORGE RADANOVICH

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, November 16, 2010

Mr. RADANOVICH. Madam Speaker, I rise today to acknowledge and honor Fresno Equipment Co. for receiving the 2010 Baker, Peterson, and Franklin Ag Business Award. Fresno Equipment Co. has held a long and distinguished position in the California agriculture industry, adhering to extremely high standards of quality and integrity.

The family operation of Fresno Equipment Co. has been ongoing since 1960 when Mark Vucovich and Bill Hansen became partners. Vucovich purchased the business and became sole owner in 1968 after the passing of Hansen. Mark passed away in 1980, and the business was taken over by Mark's children, Steve and Marsha.

The company operates a Five Points and Fresno Store, the latter of which is an award